

Meeman Shelby Forest State Park Programs

May 26-September 3 Deep Swamp Canoe Floats

Sundays at 9am and 1pm

A guided tour of Eagle Lake, a mature Bald Cypress swamp, a remote and seldom seen area. Naturalists will talk of the history of the area, native flora and fauna as you between towering trees. Get an excellent view of a large heron and egret rookery, see primitive fish splash by your canoe, and possibly glimpse a Bald Eagle. Reservations are required as there is limited seating. Privately owned canoes and kayaks are welcome. Meet at the Nature Center at Poplar Tree Lake 15 minutes in advance; prepare to caravan to the launch site. Bring water, snacks, mosquito repellent, sunscreen, and clothes and shoes that can get wet and muddy. Trips can be cancelled due to water level or weather. No fee. ***These trips can be scheduled for groups at other times year round depending on availability.***

Reservations and information: 901-876-5215

May 26-September 3 Guided Hikes

Saturdays 10am

A guided 1.5 mile hike on the scenic Woodland Trail. A naturalist will talk about interesting plants and their uses, native wildlife, and forest ecology. Meet at the Visitor Center to hike to the trail head. Moderate difficulty with a couple large hills. Wear appropriate clothing and shoes and bring water and insect repellent. No reservations needed. ***These hikes can be scheduled for groups at other times year round depending on availability.*** For information call 901-876-5215.

May 26-September 3 Pontoon Boat Trips

Thursdays and Fridays 9am and 1pm

Saturdays 9am, 1pm and 5pm

Sundays 10am and 2pm

Guided boats trips on 153-acre Poplar Tree Lake. View herons, egrets, turtles, beaver lodges as a Naturalist talks about the lake history and native fauna and flora. Meet at the Nature Center 15 minutes in advance. Trips last 45 minutes. ***These trips can be scheduled for groups at other times year round depending on availability.*** \$1 per person. For reservations and information call 901-876-5215.

May 26-September 3 Raptor Programs

Saturdays and Sundays 11am

Get a chance to see these beautiful birds of prey up close as a Naturalist discusses the creatures' amazing abilities and biology. Meet at the Nature Center. ***These programs can be scheduled for groups on and off site at other times year round depending on availability.*** For information call 901-876-5215.

May 26-September 3 Reptile Programs
Saturdays and Sundays 4pm

Join a Naturalist at the Nature Center to meet a variety of live reptiles. Talk about how they live, hunt, hibernate and get the chance to touch one. ***These programs can be scheduled for groups on and off site at other times year round depending on availability.*** For information call 901-876-5215.

June 9 Annual Kids' Fishing Rodeo

On TWRA's Free Fishing day there is no need for a license! So come to the Nature Center on 135-acre Poplar Tree Lake and register for the fishing rodeo. For ages up to 16 with limited help from adults. May use artificial and live bait. Bank fishing only. Registration starts at 7am. Weigh in at any time, final check-in and awards ceremony at 11am. Door prizes to all registered, trophies for largest, smallest, and most fish. For information call 901-876-5215.

June 4-7 and June 18-21 Jr. Ranger Camps

Day Camps to learn skills and certify in several topics such as wildlife, plants, water, astronomy, history, and safety. These are fun filled days with not only learning, but games, hiking, canoeing, swimming, fishing, and good healthy snacks. Camps are Monday to Thursday 9am to 3pm. Registration begins April 1. Limited spots. For information call 901-876-5215.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS include:

- Living history demonstrations
- Bird, tree, plant and flower identification
- Nature games
- Fire building
- Ten essentials to survival
- Astronomy
- Orienteering
- Arts and crafts